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Words That Matter

SHREE ABHAY

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Presented to Sachanda
with love and compliments
Abhay

WORDS THAT MATTER

23.1.77
Varanasi

THOU ART ALL THAT IS MINE.
FOR THY COMPASSION DIVINE
MASTER ART THOU.
TO THY LOTUS FEET
TIME AND AGAIN, I BOW.

SHREE ABHAY

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BANARAS

PREFACE

What is needed is awakening of life. When it is awakened the world around takes a new shape and the truth is revealed. What was once meaningless becomes meaningful.

I ask you, my friends, will you go the way that leads to the awakening of life ? I know your life will be rich and full if you do so.

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You, my friends, are nothing but the various manifestations of the Eternal Truth.

This is my humble offering to you all.

Varanasi,
November 17, 1976

Shree Abhay Bhattacharya

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Publisher's Note

It is a great pleasure and no less a privilege for me to publish the book **'Words That Matter'** *by Shree Abhayji, and thereby pay my humble tribute of respect to the author.*

This little book which is a translation of Shree Abhayji's Bengali booklet **'Kajer Katha'**, *carries his valuable message and aims at giving a concrete shape to the idea of a pure and true life.*

The translation has been done by Shree Ram Gopal Nath and Shree Ram Krishna Bhattacharya to whom I, on behalf of all the followers of Shree Abhayji, tender my best thanks. The author himself has revised the manuscript. To all those

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who have helped him in the revision of the manuscript and in various other ways, I offer my sincere thanks. I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Shree S. Das whose helpful co-operation has largely contributed to the publication of the book.

Whatever I have done is the fruit of Shree Abhayji's blessings. Having regard to this, and in view of the fact that he who entrusted me with the task has himself completed it through me, I pray for his loving touch all through my life.

Ranajit Kumar

Varanasi
21st December, 1976.

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Words That Matter

1. Friend, to you I offer my love. I offer my salutation. He who is the soul of souls existeth in your soul. He who is nearer to me than my dearest ones, dwelleth in the heart of each one of you.

2. Friend, I have something to tell you. Something useful. It comes from the soul. Listen, friend, listen.

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3. Many a thought you had had, friend. Your day passes through thoughts alone. Learn to ponder now—who you are, where you have come from, where you are to go and in what direction you are moving. Learn to ponder over the purpose of your life.

4. Is there any such thing as will satisfy you and mitigate all your wants? Yes, there is. But what is that thing? That is the whole—the All-embracing, the Absolute. There exist all

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the living beings, the entire universe. He is what we call God—God who is ever-awake and ever-alive, existing in infinite knowledge and boundless love.

5. That is the Mother. Father is that. That is the Master. Friend is that. And that is the Beloved. In countless forms, names and ideas people adore Him.

6. He is your real happiness and peace. Happiness and peace is

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nothing but Him. He is your love.

Only a little glimpse of that bliss and peace is seen in this world. Merely a semblance of that love is noticed in worldly affairs. Get at Him and you are satisfied. Get at Him and your soul is full.

7. He is all things to all men. He is all things to you. Knowing not, you are worshipping Him, contemplating Him alone in all worldly affairs. Hence

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forth, be conscious and go on contemplating. And make your life complete and blessed.

8. Why, then, are you leading such a life of a destitute ? Are you insignificant ? Nay, you are not. In yourself you possess what is greater than the great, nay, the greatest. In you reside wonderful wealth, and immeasurable beauty and grace. He dwelleth in you.

9. Oh friend, won't you find out the key-stone of your real home?

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Won't you endeavour to attain Him who is yours ? Only with trifling ideas would you keep yourself confined within small circles? Would you allow your days to pass in this way ? Awake now, friend, awake. Move on, friend. Proceed.

10. Day in and day out, your life is getting filled up with deception. All your confusions are due to misunderstanding through illusions. Gain is appearing as loss to you and loss as gain. What is simple seems to be

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difficult and what is difficult appears to be simple. Proceed, remembering the key-note of life, and your illusions will disappear.

11. Are we comfortable in our present state ? Comfortable ? How ? Why does so much want haunt us if we are comfortable ? Why is this fear ? Why this anxiety ? Why do we burn with jealousy and malice ? Why is this torment of grief and suffering ?

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Only those whose minds have become calm, serene and graceful, and have developed love for God are happy. None else. The sole purpose of leading a religious life is to keep oneself free and easy in the true sense.

12. Religion is essential. It is essential in life and in death. Hold on to religion in your daily habits, in all your activities, in your joys and festivals, and be at ease.

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13. Remember, religion alone is required, not its pomp—religion which is illuminated by the light of truth, which broadens the mind, inspires the wonderful spirit of the soul, makes man perfect and brings for him the boundless love of the Innate Beauty. Get hold, friend, get hold of that true religion.

14. A good many prejudices are mere superstitions. There are many usages and rites that result in no benefit but are waste of time. You are to avoid them.

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Is it wise to follow traditional practices blindly? You are to consider which of these are actually to be observed. You are also to decide which of these are useless and should therefore be discarded. Very often wrong things are repeatedly practised in society and life for long. Some rituals which were once essential have become totally irrelevant today. Think before you proceed.

15. Friend, only those usages,

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rituals and ideas that will help you to proceed to the ultimate goal of life, are worthy of being preserved in your life. See that no part of your strength, ability and thoughts is wasted in vain.

Proceed with vigorous enthusiasm and undaunted valour. The embrace of that Supreme Friend is awaiting you.

16. Listen, friend, you are to keep a sentinel within your mind. Caution is essential against those thoughts that narrow

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down your mind. Let them not escape our vigil. May such misfortune never befall us as makes us oblivious of the meanness and limitations of our own mind and over-conscious about the defects in others.

17. Set your mind right. When it is set right, every thing is all right. Confusion in mind means confusion everywhere. Make the mind graceful and loving. Kindle up the light of knowledge in your mind.

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Paint the mind with the pigment of pure love. Brother, develop your mind with the utmost care.

18. Very often it seems that, had there not been so many hindrances around, we would have advanced very far. But the greatest hindrance is in the mind itself. Fear, hesitation, meanness, malice and such other things obstruct the way. Remove these inner impediments and the way outside is open.

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19. Friend, it is the inherent right of everyone to attain the Magnanimous.

Go on aspiring after Him. Aspire assertively. Aspire with sincerity. Say, "I desire Him, who is the principal, who is the nearest of the kins, who is all in all. I desire Him with all my heart. I cannot do without Him."

And further say, "I shall do whatever is necessary to achieve Him and henceforth I shall be proceeding along the way that reaches Him."

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Let your mind be convinced that to achieve Him is the main thing in life.

20. Are you in the dark ? Call Him in darkness. Light will appear there. Is there distress within your mind ? Do you feel that you have fallen into the mire ? Bow down to Him in that very state, cling to Him and convey to Him the agony of your mind. Are you forgetting the main thing through illusion ? As soon as you remember Him, bow down

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to Him, and surrender yourself at once to His feet.

21. Hullo friend, it is a great advantage and a matter of great hope that He existeth everywhere and His lotus-feet exist everywhere. Friend, what is more astonishing is that He is awaiting you. Long for Him heart and soul and you will feel His loving embrace.

22. He existeth in your work. He existeth in your world.

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He existeth in your joy and exaltation, in your sorrow and weariness. All is His and He Himself is all. This life is His. Lead your life with this knowledge.

23. Work. Work with great enthusiasm. Gird up your loins and engage yourself in actions. Your actions? Only from a narrow point of view they are your actions, but in a wide sense all actions are His. Be conscious about Him and do His work. He is

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present everywhere. Work in the spirit of service with the idea that you are serving Him.

24. Get hold of Him, friend, get hold of Him. Get hold of Him in prosperity and in distress, in light as well as in the dark. Get hold of Him in all circumstances. Get hold of Him in your joy and sorrow. Feel the relationship with the nearest of your kins in your smiles and tears—in your dreams and your waking moments—in all the

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phases of your life. Make friends with Him. Be intimate with Him. Recognise Him as much as you can and say, "Thou existest My Lord, here Thou art". Surrender yourself unto Him as much as you can. Surrender yourself sincerely, honestly and frankly to Him who is your nearest One.

Remember Him time and again. Remember Him as much as you can. And welcome Him. Welcome Him in your life, in

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your heart and in your very existence.

Let intimacy with Him grow up in so many different forms.

25. Be engrossed in His thoughts. Keep Him ever in remembrance, and the cloud of your worries will vanish.

26. Utter His name and salute Him. These two will deliver us. His name generates a feeling of devotion and gives His touch. Thus communion with the

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possessor of the name comes through uttering of the name. The possessor of the name, that is God, existeth in His name.

So take His name. Utter the name consciously. Be inspired with the idea inherent in the name and take His name. When His name is sung, be in close intimacy with Him in love. Let His name ring in your heart. Go into raptures with your friends in singing His name.

Now comes salutation. Bow down to His feet again and

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again. The more often you bow down, the lighter will be your burden. The wall of ego that stands between the Lord and you will melt down in salutation. Salutation will generate a spirit of self-dedication and self-surrender.

All the barriers of separatism, all the torments of desire will disappear with salutation. With salutation the flow of life will become serene, pure and pleasant.

With salutation the glory of His name will reveal itself. With

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repeated recital of the name, salutation will become real, significant and rewarding.

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I

Thy purple feet
At the dawn of this day
Hold I in the bosom.
Let not any pleasant deceit
Entice me from
The way I proceed.
If pain floodeth me away,
I seek, My Lord, refuge in Thee.

If the dreadful night cometh ever,
And the light of my hopes is dim,
However dark that night be,
Pray, allow me to see
The glow of Thy feet.

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With the touch of Thy feet,
Let remain my life and death
Full to the brim.

II

Oh, my bosom friend,
My life's companion,
I dropped Thee from mind.
But Thou wert in the heart
Taking a seat in my bosom.

Wreathed I garlands
At every birth,
I knew not for whom.
Made decorations of lights

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At every birth,
That for Thine I did not own.
Now I find, on Thy neck
All my garlands swing,
And all my lights burn
Beneath Thy altar.

Through numerous births of mine
Long way I traversed,
And Thy attraction in fine,
Has drawn me near Thy feet.
In all my thorns and flowers,
Throbs Thy affection,
And blessed forever
Are the days and nights
Of all my births.

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III

How long shall I be
The victim of thoughts
When Mother like Thee I have ?
Unceasing is my agony.
What ailment is this ?
Shall I have no escape
From this miserable lot ?

One problem solved,
The vacuum becomes occupied
By another.
Oh Mother,
Thoughts pursue me
As long as wakeful I remain.

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And they haunt me, Mother
Even in dream.

A remedy for this malady
Have I got.
And a decision have I taken
To surrender to Thy feet
All the burdens of my thoughts.
And from my heart
Never shall I let go
The thoughts of Bhawani—
The Divine Mother.

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IV

Now I know how destructive
Thou art.
Thou takest all,
But returnest all—
This is the essence.

Thou knowest conjuring well,
Having a black make-up outside.
There under thy black veil
Remaineth the ocean of light.

Sorrow that cometh to me
Concealeth the love of Thy heart.
Through destruction

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Thou createst.
It's Thy playful art.

Dressed in the dress
Thou hast given me, Mother,
I am ready to play the game
If on thy eyes
My eyes fixed remain.

V

Cry out, 'O Mother', my mind.
You will then know and realize
That the salty tears of your eyes
Do yield gold.

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When your heart aches
Cry out,'Mother, Oh my Mother',
And in adoration of sorrow
In your heart
Catch hold of Her purple feet.

When surrounded on all sides
By darkness of despair,
Light up the lamp
With the name of Mother,
And it will disappear.

Whenever hostile forces
Threaten you,

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Utter, 'Mother, Oh Mother',
And at the feet of the Fearless
Take refuge.

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